

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 /029 W

----- 104795

R 121037Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4625

INFO USIA WASH DC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 BUDAPEST 3634

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, HU

SUBJ: EXCHANGE OF PARTY CARDS IN HUNGARY

REF: BUDAPEST 3488

1. SUMMARY: THE HSWP IS PREPARING TO CARRY OUT THE SIXTH EXCHANGE OF PARTY CARDS SINCE 1945, BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF 1976. BASED ON THE DECISION OF THE XI PARTY CONGRESS HELD IN MARCH 1975 THE EXCHANGE IS AIMED TO INCREASE ACTIVISM IN THE PARTY AND ELIMINATE UNPRODUCTIVE MEMBERS. DECISIONS ON RENEWING MEMBERSHIP WILL REST PRIMARILY ON EXTENSIVE INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS TO BE HELD WITH EACH OF THE 750,000 MEMBERS AND WILL BE BASED ON A SERIES OF CRITERIA DESIGNED TO ASSESS THEIR PARTY WORK AND PERSONAL ATTITUDES. SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS ARE TO RATIFY THESE DECISIONS. NO MAJOR CRISES OR DIVISIONS ARE SAID TO FACE THE PARTY AND THE EXCHANGE IS TO BE OSTEN-

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SIBLY CARRIED OUT TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF MEMBERSHIP.

END SUMMARY.

2. NOVEMBER EDITION OF HSWP MONTHLY PARTELET CARRIES TEXT OF SPEECH ABOUT EXCHANGE OF PARTY CARDS GIVEN AT OCTOBER 1975 CC MEETING BY CC SECRETARY ARPAD PULLAI, AS WELL AS TIMETABLE FOR CARRYING OUT CC DECISION TO PROCEED. LAST TWO PARTY CARD EXCHANGES WERE HELD IN 1954 AND 1967.

3. PULLAI EMPHASIZED THAT HSWP DOES NOT RPT NOT SUFFER FROM POLITICAL LAXITY OR FACTIONALISM, AND THAT IS COM- POSITION AMONG VARIOUS GROUPS AND ITS UNITY ARE SATIS- FACTORY. ACCORDINGLY THE EXCHANGE IS NOT RPT NOT A PURGE OR INQUISITION OF PARTY MEMBERS BUT SERVES THE DUAL GOAL OF INCREASING ACTIVISM OF MEMBERSHIP AND INCREASING DEMANDS FOR IDEOLOGICAL COMMITMENT FROM EACH MEMBER. ALL MEMBERS MUST BE OBLIGATED TO PARTICIPATE IN PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF PARTY POLICIES IN EVERY WALK OF LIFE.

4. INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS WITH EACH PARTY MEMBER WILL SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR DECIDING WHETHER MEMBERSHIP IS TO BE RENEWED. CRITERIA TO BE ASSESSED INCLUDE DEGREE OF PART PARTICIPATION IN PARTY WORK, IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL CONSCIOUSNESS, PAST RECORD OF LIVING LIFE-STYLE OF SOCIALIST MAN, THE ABSENCE OR PRESENCE OF IMPROPER MATERIALISTIC TENDENCIES, PLUS THE WILLINGNESS AND ABILITY TO ACCEPT AND CARRY OUT NEW ASSIGNMENTS. EVERY INTERVIEWEE MUST MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW HIS WORK AND THAT OF THE PARTY CAN BE IMPROVED.

5. THE CC DIRECTIVES DRAW ATTENTION TO CERTAIN MITIGAT- ING CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH SHOULD KEEP SOME MEMBERS FROM BEING JUDGED TOO STRICTLY. THESE INCLUDE PHYSICAL WORKERS WHO WERE NOT GIVEN SPECIFIC PARTY TASKS, RECENTLY ADMITTED YOUNG MEMBERS, AND OLDER AND RETIRED PERSONS. ALSO TO BE JUDGED LIGHTLY ARE THOSE WHO WHILE ABSTAINING FROM RE- LIGIOUS PRACTICES THEMSELVES HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO PERSUADE MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILY TO DO LIKEWISE.

6. PULLAI CHARACTERIZED THE PRESENT MEMBERSHIP LEVEL OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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750,000 AS SATISFACTORY AND CC RECOMMENDED THAT MEMBER- SHIP BE INCREASED AT NO MORE THAN THREE PER CENT PER YEAR, PRIMARILY FROM THE RANKS OF PHYSICAL WORKERS. NUMERICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR RECRUITMENT OF NEW MEMBERS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED, AND IMPROVEMENT GOALS ARE SET ON QUALITY NOT MEMBERSHIP INCREASE.

7. IN ADDITION TO THE INTERVIEWS, THE PARTY ORGANIZA-

TIONS WILL HAVE TO UP-DATE EACH MEMBER'S FILE. INTERVIEWS AND OTHER ASSOCIATED PROCEDURES ARE TO BE COMPLETED BY 1 AUGUST 1976. RATIFYING MEETINGS MUST CONCLUDE WORK BY 1 SEPTEMBER AND PREPARE STATISTICAL REPORTS ON RESIGNATIONS AND REMOVALS FROM PARTY. NEW PARTY CARDS ARE TO BE READY BY 1 NOVEMBER AND CEREMONIES AWARDED NEW CARDS ARE TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1976.

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8. COMMENT: LESIURELY PACE THAT HSWP LEADERSHIP HAS ADOPTED AND NOW ANNOUNCED TYPIFIES FACELESS, UNHURRIED, REMOTE, IMPERSONAL LEADERSHIP OF FIRST SECRETARY JANOS KADAR. THIS LATEST ANNOUNCEMENT IN PARTELET, WHILE SOOTHING AND REASURING TO PARTY FAITHFULS, ALSO PUTS EVERY HSWP MEMBER ON NOTICE THAT WHEELS HAVE BEEN SET IN MOTION AND THAT SIFTING PROCESS WILL CONTINUE INEXORABLY FOR NEXT TWELVE MONTHS. AS AN ASIDE ONE CAN NOTE THAT THERE IS SOME "SMART MONEY" HERE IN BUDAPEST WHO HOLD THAT THE EVER PRUDENT JANOS KADAR AND HIS EQUALLY CATUTIOUS CENTRAL COMMITTEE COLLEAGUES ARE ESPECIALLY

VIGILANT WITH RESPECT TO TIMING: 1) THEY WISH TO  
ALLOW SOME WATER TO FLOW UNDER BRIDGE AFTER HELSINKI  
SUMMIT AND DISCOVER WHERE CSCE IMPLEMENTATION IS TAKING  
THEM; 2) THEY ARE AWAITING OUTCOME OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST  
PARTY CONFERENCE; AND 3) MOST IMPORTANTLY, THEY ARE WARILY  
WATCHING MOSCOW AND STRAINING TO HEAR THE FIRST POST-BREZHNEV  
SHOE DROP. WHEN THAT BOOT HAS DROPPED, HSWP CC CAN MAKE  
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ITS "DECISIONS" WITH CONFIDENCE.  
MCAULIFFE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEMBERSHIP, POLITICAL PARTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BUDAPE03634  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 BUDAPEST 3488  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <30 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EXCHANGE OF PARTY CARDS IN HUNGARY  
**TAGS:** PINT, HU, HSWP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006